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LETTER DATED 5 DECEMBER 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
CÔTE D'IVOIRE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The Declaration of the African Heads of State, meeting at Yaoundé in July 1996, which recommended a second term of office for Africa in the post of Secretary-General and was supported by the international community, remains applicable to this day.

Accordingly, in conformity with the position taken by Mr. Paul Biya, President of the Republic of Cameroon and current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), in his communication of 29 November 1996, aimed at enabling African States which wish to do so to put forward candidates, and on instructions from my Government, I have the honour to put forward the candidature of Mr. Amara Essy, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Côte d'Ivoire, for the post of Secretary-General of the United Nations.

My Government also instructs me to inform you that the same notification has been given to Mr. Paul Biya, President of the Republic of Cameroon and current Chairman of OAU.

(Signed) Jean-Marie Kacou GERVAIS



Annex

[Original: English]

CURRICULUM VITAE

Mr. Amara Essy is the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Côte d'Ivoire.

Born in December 1944 in Bouaké, Côte d'Ivoire, Mr. Essy holds a degree in public law and a diploma of high-level studies in public law. He also holds a diploma from the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (Switzerland).

Mr. Essy has held several high-level posts in the country's Administration, as a diplomat.

He became the Chief of the Division of Economic Relations of the Central Department in 1970. From 1971 to 1973, he was First Counsellor at the Embassy of Côte d'Ivoire in Brazil. From 1973 to 1975, he was a counsellor at the Permanent Mission of Côte d'Ivoire to the United Nations in New York.

In 1975, he was appointed Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Côte d'Ivoire at the European Office of the United Nations at Geneva and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization at Vienna.

From 1978 to 1981, he was also Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Côte d'Ivoire to the Swiss Confederation at Berne.

He was Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Côte d'Ivoire to the United Nations in New York from 27 August 1981 to November 1990, assuming with these functions those of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary in Argentina and Cuba, with residence in New York.

Since November 1990, Mr. Amara Essy has been Minister for Foreign Affairs of Côte d'Ivoire.

In the course of his career, he has participated in several international conferences held by the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the Group of 77.

Mr. Essy has participated in several sessions of the United Nations General Assembly as well as several sectoral conferences, including the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea (Caracas, Geneva, New York), the Conference of the International Year of Women in Mexico, the fourth and fifth sessions of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at Nairobi and Manila, the Conference on the Codification of International Law, at Vienna, and many sessions of the Commission on Human Rights, the Economic and Social Council and the United Nations Development Programme.

Mr. Essy has served in various capacities within the United Nations. He was President of the Group of 77 in Geneva from January 1977 to January 1978, Vice-President of the forty-third session of the General Assembly from September 1988 to September 1989, President of the Security Council in January 1990 and President of the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly from September 1994 to September 1995.

Mr. Amara Essy holds numerous decorations, including the National Order of Côte d'Ivoire.

Mr. Amara Essy is married and has six children.

He speaks French, English and Portuguese.
